

Table 11: Aquatic Insects Collected

Common Name	Order	Families	Large Streams	Medium to Small Streams
Water beetles	Coleoptera	Noteridae		X
Midges and Flies	Diptera	Chironomidae	X	
		Ceratopogonidae		X
		Dixidae		X
		Tipulidae		X
Caddisflies	Trichoptera	Odontoceridae	X	
		Hydropsychidae	X	X
		Glossosomatidae	X	
		Rhyacophilidae		X
		Ephemerallidae	X	
		Baetidae	X	
		Leptophlebiidae	X	X
Stoneflies	Plecoptera	Peltoperlidae	X	X
		Perlidae	X	
		Taeniopterygidae	X	
		Nemouridae	X	

Project study area streams contain a diversity of benthic macroinvertebrates. Sampling included the Little Tennessee River and Bird Branch. The Little Tennessee River and Bird Branch contain a variety of aquatic insects belonging to the Orders Trichoptera, Ephemeroptera, and Plecoptera. These three orders are considered indicators of good water quality.

4. Rare and Unique Natural Areas

The Little Tennessee River Aquatic Habitat and the Little Tennessee River Floodplain are unique natural areas occurring within the project study area as identified by NCNHP. These areas occur throughout the project study area and extend upstream and downstream of the project study area.

B. Jurisdictional Areas

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires regulation of discharges into "waters of the United States." Although the principal administrative agency of the CWA is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the USACE has major responsibility for implementation, permitting, and enforcement of provisions of the Act. The USACE regulatory program is defined in 33 CFR 320-330.

Water bodies such as rivers, lakes and streams are subject to jurisdictional consideration under the Section 404 program. However, by regulation, wetlands are also considered "waters of the United States." Wetlands have been described as:

Those areas that are inundated or saturated by groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas. [33 CFR 328.3(b) (1986)]